

Appl. No. 10/694,641
Amdt. dated July 29, 2005
Second Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-13, 24, and 25 have been canceled. Claims 14-23 and 26-41 are pending. The status identifiers used in the present amendment presume entry of the Applicants' first preliminary amendment, dated June 14, 2005.

II. The Present Amendment

No new matter has been added by the present amendments.

New claim 30 is supported throughout the specification, including claim 1 of application 09/721,261 (the "'261 application"), to which the present application claims priority, as originally filed.

New claims 31-34 are supported throughout the specification, including claims 2-5 as originally filed in the '261 application.

New claims 35 and 36 are supported throughout the specification, including page 14, paragraph 0009, and Table 2.

New claim 37 is supported throughout the specification, including page 20, paragraph 0029.

New claims 38 and 39 are supported throughout the specification, including claims 7 and 8 of the '261 application as originally filed.

New claims 25 and 26 are supported by, for example, Carretero and Oparil, Circulation 101:329-335 (2000) ("Carretero I") at page 329, left and right columns. Carretero I is cited in the specification at page 1, line 31. It is incorporated by reference at page 35, paragraph 0079, and thus is, and always has been, part of the teachings of the present specification. A copy of Carretero I was submitted for the Examiner's information under cover of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement ("SIDS") dated June 15, 2005.

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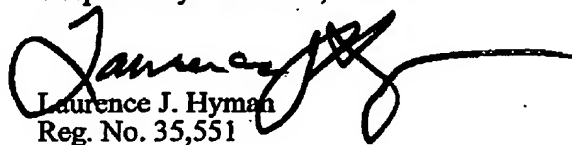
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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